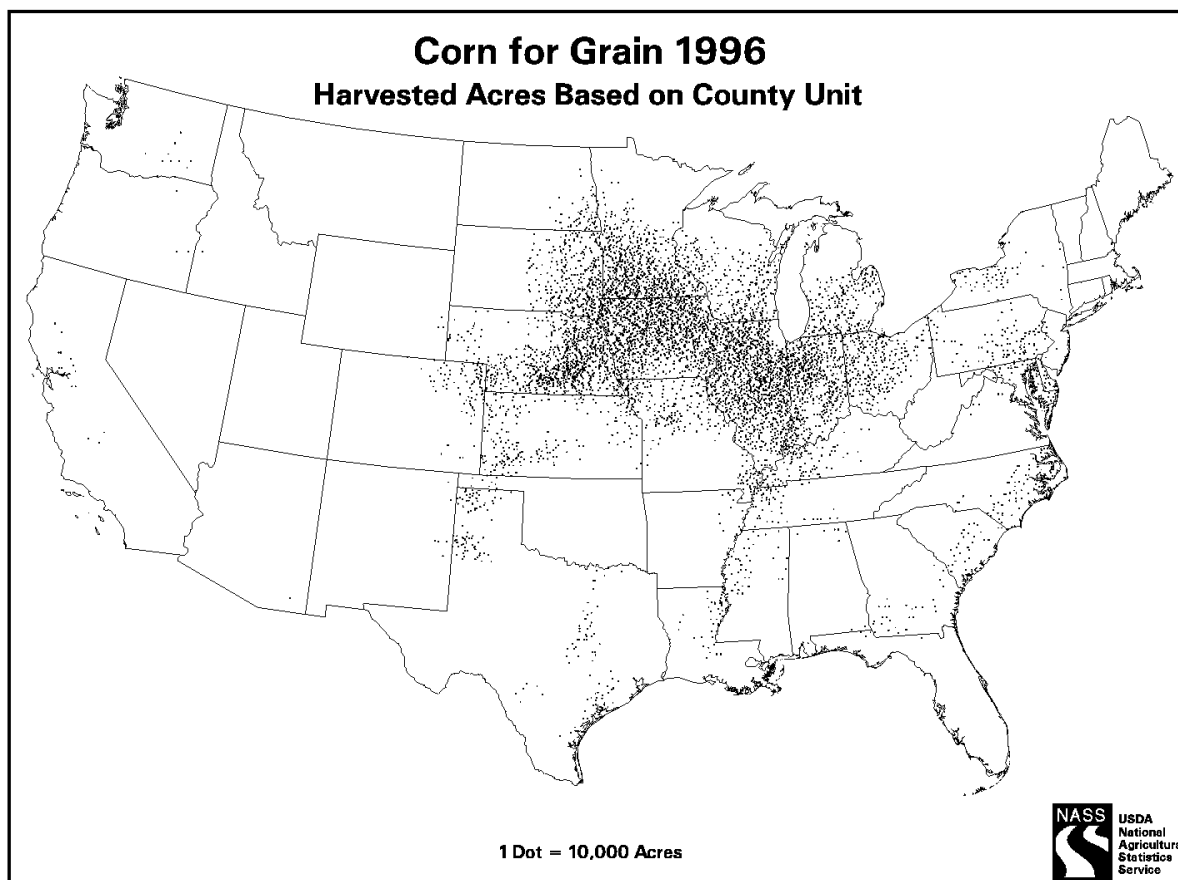


Corn

Corn was the leading U.S. crop in 1996, both in terms of value of production and acreage grown. Over 73 million acres of corn were harvested for grain. The acreage for grain comprised 92% of all corn planted. More than 80% of the corn-for-grain acreage lies in the Corn Belt States, with Iowa leading all States and Illinois ranking second. The largest acreage of record, 111 million acres, was harvested in 1917. Acreage decreased from the turn of the century, with the exception of wartime plantings, until the late-1960's. Since then, harvested acreage levels have generally ranged between 60-75 million acres.

The 1996 National grain yield was 127.1 bushels per acre the third highest yield on record. Yields have generally increased since the turn of the century, with more rapid increases occurring in more recent years. The highest corn yield on record, 138.6 bushels per acre, occurred in 1994. Corn grain production generally increased through the late-1980's. Erratic weather caused production to fluctuate significantly in the 1990's. In 1996, 9.3 billion bushels of corn were produced in the Nation, compared with 7.4 billion bushels in 1995 and the record 10.1 billion bushels in 1994.



Corn for Grain: Usual Planting and Harvesting Dates, by State

State	1996 Harvested Acres (000)	Usual Planting Dates			Usual Harvesting Dates		
		Begin	Most Active	End	Begin	Most Active	End
AL	280	Mar 5	Mar 25 - Apr 25	May 18	Jul 21	Aug 11 - Sep 20	Nov 2
AZ	40	Mar 15	Apr 1 - May 15	Jun 1	Sep 1	Oct 1 - Nov 1	Dec 1
AR	230	Apr 3	Apr 10 - May 18	May 25	Aug 16	Aug 27 - Sep 18	Oct 11
CA	220	Mar 15	Apr 1 - Jul 1	Jul 15	Sep 1	Oct 1 - Nov 15	Dec 1
CO	940	Apr 15	May 1 - May 15	Jun 1	Oct 1	Oct 15 - Nov 10	Dec 1
DE	150	Apr 19	Apr 30 - May 16	May 28	Sep 10	Sep 20 - Oct 15	Nov 5
FL	112	Mar 1	Mar 15 - Apr 15	Apr 25	Jul 15	Aug 1 - Sept 10	Oct 1
GA	525	Mar 1	Mar 20 - Apr 15	May 5	Jul 25	Aug 15 - Sep 5	Oct 10
ID	40	Apr 21	May 5 - May 26	Jun 9	Sep 29	Oct 20 - Nov 10	Nov 24
IL	10,800	Apr 22	Apr 30 - May 18	May 28	Sep 24	Oct 9 - Nov 3	Nov 19
IN	5,450	Apr 25	May 5 - May 20	Jun 10	Sep 20	Oct 10 - Nov 25	Dec 10
IA	12,450	Apr 22	May 2 - May 16	Jun 3	Sep 17	Oct 7 - Oct 31	Nov 17
KS	2,350	Apr 10	Apr 25 - May 15	May 25	Sep 5	Sep 20 - Oct 20	Nov 10
KY	1,200	Apr 12	Apr 21 - May 18	Jun 8	Sep 8	Sep 22 - Oct 20	Nov 15
LA	523	Mar 10	Mar 19 - Apr 4	Apr 28	Jul 29	Aug 13 - Sep 1	Sep 16
MD	465	Apr 20	Apr 30 - May 20	Jun 7	Sep 9	Sep 22 - Oct 22	Nov 17
MI	2,300	May 1	May 10 - May 21	May 31	Oct 3	Oct 23 - Nov 17	Dec 3
MN	6,950	Apr 24	May 3 - May 22	Jun 8	Sep 29	Oct 15 - Nov 12	Nov 28
MS	605	Mar 27	Mar 31 - Apr 28	Jun 11	Aug 12	Sep 1 - Oct 6	Oct 22
MO	2,650	Apr 5	Apr 20 - May 25	Jun 10	Sep 1	Sep 20 - Oct 30	Dec 1
MT	15	Apr 19	May 1 - May 25	Jun 8	Sep 15	Sep 20 - Oct 5	Oct 15
NE	8,300	Apr 21	May 3 - May 19	Jun 1	Sep 21	Oct 11 - Nov 6	Dec 1
NJ	94	May 7	May 28 - Jun 20	Jun 28	Oct 1	Oct 30 - Nov 10	Nov 28
NM	84	Apr 15	Apr 20 - May 10	May 20	Sep 25	Oct 1 - Oct 30	Nov 20
NY	630	Apr 25	May 5 - May 25	Jun 5	Oct 10	Oct 20 - Nov 20	Dec 1
NC	900	Apr 1	Apr 10 - Apr 25	May 20	Aug 20	Sep 10 - Oct 7	Nov 7
ND	720	May 3	May 13 - May 26	Jun 5	Sep 29	Oct 10 - Oct 27	Nov 9
OH	2,750	Apr 22	May 1 - May 30	Jun 12	Sep 25	Oct 15 - Nov 14	Nov 25
OK	170	Mar 25	Apr 18 - May 4	May 15	Aug 25	Sep 8 - Oct 1	Oct 20
OR	33	Apr 20	May 20 - Jun 1	Jun 15	Oct 10	Nov 1 - Nov 20	Dec 15
PA	1070	Apr 30	May 10 - May 25	Jun 15	Sep 25	Oct 15 - Nov 20	Dec 10
SC	380	Mar 10	Mar 20 - Apr 20	May 15	Jul 25	Aug 20 - Sep 25	Oct 10
SD	3,700	May 1	May 9 - May 25	Jun 11	Sep 24	Oct 10 - Nov 6	Nov 30
TN	680	Apr 5	Apr 15 - May 1	Jun 1	Sep 1	Sep 20 - Oct 15	Nov 10
TX	1,800	Feb 28	Mar 20 - Apr 29	May 15	Jul 16	Aug 6 - Sep 24	Nov 1
UT	21	Apr 15	Apr 30 - May 20	Jun 5	Sep 25	Oct 10 - Oct 30	Dec 10
VA	310	Apr 5	Apr 20 - May 20	Jun 5	Aug 25	Sep 5 - Oct 25	Nov 20
WA	120	Apr 15	May 1 - May 20	Jun 5	Oct 5	Oct 20 - Nov 20	Dec 1
WV	40	Apr 25	May 1 - Jun 1	Jun 15	Sep 10	Sep 20 - Oct 25	Nov 25
WI	3,000	Apr 25	May 1 - Jun 5	Jun 10	Oct 1	Oct 15 - Nov 15	Nov 30
WY	50	Apr 22	May 3 - May 21	Jun 10	Sep 24	Oct 11 - Nov 9	Dec 5